GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2862
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2016
Gems and Jewellery Workers
Sigriwal Shri Janardan Singh

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is shortage of skilled gems and jewellery workers in the country as per the study conducted by ASSOCHAM;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the number of skilled gems and jewellery workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has decided to associate the workers of the said sectors with skill development scheme and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to provide modern machines, software, modern technique and security kit to the workers working in the said sector and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

(a) Yes Sir. As per a study conducted by Assocham −The Gems & Jewellery Industry- Contributing to "Make in India", the high growth rate of the gems and jewellery industry indicates the potentially high demand for skilled manpower in the future. However, the inherent skills in gold-smith families and on-the job training is not sufficient, especially when the need is to modernize, in order to beat global competition.

(b) to (e) Over 95,000 candidates have been trained & certified in the gems and jewellery sector since 2014, under schemes like National Skill Certification and Monetary Reward Scheme (STAR) & Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY). The Sector Skill Council for Gems & Jewellery has trained more than 500 trainers, who have been certified under the Training of Trainers Programme. Two Centres of Excellence have been set up by the Sector Skill Council to provide support for the development of courseware, curriculum, trainers' guide, assessors guide etc. These Centres of Excellence also support R&D within the manufacturing processes and keep abreast with the technological advances happening in India and around the world. Efforts are continuously being made to improve the productivity of workers, by improving their working conditions. Increased use of advanced technology and its ease of use, is facilitating artisans to learn the work faster and even school dropouts are able to make a career within the industry.